

PADDOCK WOOD RNA MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN COMMANDO COURSE

Commando Series at Hever Castle marks 100 Years since Armistice with Remembrance Ceremony and epic obstacle course. Designed and Completed by Paddock Wood RNA Branch member Shipmate Dan Baines.

On the 100th Anniversary of Armistice, the iconic grounds of Hever Castle played host to the Commando Series fourth annual obstacle endurance course. Taking place over a wet and windy Remembrance Weekend (10th & 11th November) the weather didn't dampen the spirits of over 2,000 competitors who turned up to participate for the most momentous and poignant event to date.

Following a competition ahead of the event weekend, two competitor-designed obstacles added to the endurance course. The creative winning designs paid tribute to real Royal Marines Commando operations in WWI and WWII, with **"The Mole", designed by RNA Paddock Wood Branch member Dan Baines** and "D-Day Landings," designed by Lloyd Cooper.

Dan Baines' "The Mole" commemorated the 1918 Zeebrugge Raid which saw 176 Royal Marines Commandos lose their lives. The obstacle was also inspired by the Tarzan assault course at Commando Training Centre in Lympstone, The Mole tested balance, nerve, team work and dexterity as competitors balanced on a gangway before scaling a cargo net to reach the top of The Mole and neutralising an enemy position.

Dan was awarded the commemorative Commando Dagger before heading out and completing the 15km course covering 48 obstacles and carrying 21lbs of kit.

The event is set to return to Hever Castle on the 9th and 10th November 2019 for another Remembrance Weekend event.

